

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration of this application is requested.

Marked-up versions of the amended claim, specification paragraphs and the drawing sheet showing the changes made are attached hereto. In preparing the foregoing amendments, careful attention was paid to ensure that no new matter has been introduced.

As a result of the foregoing amendments, a total of 6 claims remain in the present application. Original claim 7 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, independent claim 1 has been amended to more clearly define the features of the present invention. Figure 1 has been amended to clearly identify each phase of a stator winding with a respective reference numeral.

The foregoing amendments are presented in response to the Office Action mailed August 1, 2002, wherefor reconsideration is respectfully requested. Referring now to the text of the Office Action:

- (a) claims 1-4, and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b), as unpatentable over the teaching of United States Patent No. 5,841,358 (Jamieson '98).
- (b) claims 1, 2 and 5-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b), as unpatentable over the teaching of United States Patent No. 5,218,283 (Wills et al. '93).

Such rejections are respectfully traversed, based on the claim amendments presented above, and further in view of the discussion below.

With respect to the Examiner's rejection of claims 1-4 and 7 in view of United States Patent No. 5,841,358 (Jamieson), the Examiner has argued that the Jamieson patent discloses a stator winding for a brushless DC motor. In fact, the Jamieson patent is directed to a method and circuit for establishing the operational status of a direct drive multiple speed motor of the type typically used in air distribution systems. As is well known in the art, brushless DC motors are never used in this application. In fact, Jamieson explicitly teaches that his monitoring circuit is to be used in conjunction with an alternating current motor, by showing an AC power supply 25 in both of the circuits of Figures 1 and Figure 2.

As is well known in the art, the stator windings used in AC motors differ dramatically from those of direct current motors. It is also well known in the art that the stator windings of an AC motor can be constructed to provide a multispeed operation of the AC motor. However, because of the dramatically different modes of operation between AC and DC motors, knowledge of a stator winding providing multispeed operation in an AC motor does not in any way suggest a stator winding solution for providing multispeed operation in a brushless DC motor.

United States Patent No. 5,841,358 (Jamieson) does not teach or suggest a brushless DC motor having one or more phases, in which each phase is divided into two or more phase segments as is defined by amended claim 1. In fact, it is submitted that the Jamieson patent does not teach or suggest any of the elements of amended claim 1. Accordingly, it is believed that amended claim 1 is clearly distinguishable over the teaching of U.S. 5,841,358.

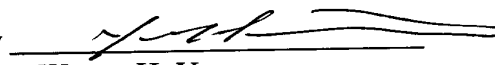
With respect to the Examiner's rejection of claims 1-2 and 5-7 in view of United States Patent No. 5,218,283 (Wills et al.) the Examiner has asserted that Wills et al. discloses a stator winding for a brushless DC motor, the stator winding comprising at least two segments (152, 154). In fact, Wills et al. teaches an induction motor drive system for operating a single phase, two winding induction motor using a two phase power supply circuit. As is well known in the art, and is explicitly stated by Wills et al., such motors exist exclusively within the alternating current field. Those of ordinary skill in the art will immediately recognize that there is absolutely no similarity, either in construction or mode of operation, between the induction motors described by Wills et al. and the DC brushless motor of the present invention. The motor of Wills et al. is a single phase induction motor, which has two stator windings, a "main" winding and a "start" winding. (See column 1, lines 20 to 23) Therefore Wills et al. do not teach or suggest a stator winding for a brushless DC motor in which the stator winding is divided into two segments, as suggested by the Examiner. Furthermore, Wills et al. do not teach, suggest, or even remotely contemplate a brushless DC motor having a stator winding comprising one or more phases, with each phase divided into two or more respective phase segments, as is defined by

amended claim 1. Accordingly, it is submitted that amended claim 1 is clearly distinguishable over the teaching of U.S. Patent No. 5,218,283 (Wills et al.).

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that the amended claims are patentable over the prior art of record, wherefore favourable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

If any extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is required to obtain entry of this response, such extension is hereby respectfully requested. If there are any fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 which are not enclosed herewith, including any fees required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 19-5113.

Respectfully submitted,  
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